

SOME *ANTHRIBIDAE* COLLECTED BY R. E. TURNER IN SOUTH AFRICA.

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IN Bovie's *Catalogue des Anthribides* (1905) two dozen species are enumerated as being known from Africa south of the Zambesi. I have added to this small number now and again a few species, mostly collected by G. F. Leigh at and near Durban. Among the Insects which R. E. Turner collected during his travels in South Africa from 1923 to 1926 the *Anthribidae* are well represented, particularly by small forms, many of which were obtained by sweeping in the forest. The percentage of new species is large; but as the small specimens mounted on cardboard present great difficulties and require remounting before they can be adequately studied, it will take some time before the whole series of species will be identified or described. The present paper is a first instalment, dealing with 10 of the species collected. The specimens belong to the British Museum.

Holophloeus gen. nov.

♂♀. Rostrum crassum subcylindricum apice parum dilatatum. Oculi laterales, integri. Scrobes antennarum foveiformes, laterales, subdorsales, apicales. Carina dorsalis prothoracis a basi longe remota, ad latera paululum antrorsum continuata. Elytrorum margo basalis truncatus. Processus mesosternalis intercoxalis angustus. ♂: antenna elongata, segmentis 10° et 11° brevibus.—Genotypus: **H. irrasus** sp. nov.

Here also belongs *Anthribus nigellus* Sparm. (1785). The new genus should provisionally be placed near *Ischnocerus* Schoenh. (1839). In the shape and position of the antennal groove similar to *Phloeotragus* Schoenh. (1826) and *Decataphanes* Imh. (1842), but in general appearance more like a tuberculated *Tophoderes* Schoenh. (1839). On pronotum two tufts or one; on elytra numerous tufts. Antenna of ♂ longer than the body; in both sexes the proximal two segments short, 3 long. Basal longitudinal carinula of pronotum oblique, forming a very sharp angle with the lateral carina, the carinula sometimes absent. Tooth of elaw large.

1. **Holophloeus irrasus** sp. nov.

♂♀. Niger, acnescens, pube luteo-grisea vestitus. luteo et nigro variegatus. Rostrum ab basi ad apicem late sed non profunde impressum. cum capite supra et subtus dense rugulosum. Antennae graciles, in ♂ corpore dimidio longiores, segmentis 3^{io}–8° fere aequiparibus, 9° elongato-triangulari, latitudine triplo longiore, 10° parum longiore quam latiore, 11° latitudine fere duplo longiore, sublineari, 10° et 11° simul sumptis nono parum brevioribus: in ♀ 3^{io} longiore quam quarto, 4°–8° fere aequalibus, 9° triangulari fere aequilaterali. Prothorax longitudine parum latior, lateribus rotundatus, maxima latitudine mox pone medium, supra confertissime rugulosus, valde convexus, in disco duobus penicillis subapproximatis nigris instructus; carina dorsali recta versus latera retrorsum, deinde antrorsum, flexa. Elytra grosse striato-punctata, inaequalia, sex penicillis

nigris notata : uno magno subbasali, duobus medianis, tribus ante apicem declivem griseum sitis. Pygidium longitudine latius. Sterna fortiter et dense punctata. Tibiae nigrae, pone basim et ad apicem griseae ; tarsi grisei.

Long. 6-8 mm.

Pondoland : xi. and xii. 1923, 4 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀.

Derm slightly metallic, in one specimen purplish. The luteous grey pubescence forms three lines on frons and occiput, the median one more or less continued to base of pronotum. On labiophore a patch of luteous pubescence bounded posteriorly by a transverse curved low ridge. Alternate interspaces of elytra somewhat elevate, suture and interspace 7 dotted with black ; besides the conspicuous 6 dark tufts mentioned above there are several small ones ; the black colour of the large subbasal tuft extends forward to basal margin. Anal sternite subtruncate.

2. *Holophloeus longipes* sp. nov.

♂. Major, antenna corpore plus duplo longiore, segmento 9^o longissimo, prothorace latitudine et longitudine aequalibus unipenicillato, rostro subtus pone labium tuberculo alto acuto arcuato instructo valde diversus.

Long. 12 mm.

Pondoland : Port St. John, xii. 1923, 1 ♂.

Black, covered with an ochreous pubescence which does not conceal the derm. Proboscis rugate-punctate, impressed along middle, the sunk portion flanked by a carina, in the depression a raised median line, the ochraceous surface of head gradually narrowing from occiput to antennal grooves. Below eye a long oblique longitudinal channel. Antennal segments 3 to 8 rather abruptly incrassate at tip (as in the previous species), apex of 6 beyond end of elytra, 5 to 9 increasing in length, 9 more than twice as long as 3, triangularly dilated at apex, 10 about as long as broad, 11 a little over double the length of 10, constricted in middle, gradually narrowed from this point to apex. Pronotum rugate-punctate, as long as broad, about as broad at base as at apex, the ochreous pubescence forming indefinite stripes, dorsal carina at one-third from base on side, at one-fourth in middle, being strongly and evenly concave in median three-fifth (and interrupted in centre), and then curved forward in a semicircle ; sides of pronotum rounded. Elytra longer than in the previous species, dorsally flatter, interspace 3 with four tufts, 5 with three, 7 with two and 9 with one, the tufts blackish brown, assuming a chestnut tint in certain aspects, the posterior ones ochreous frontally. Pygidium semicircular.

Prosternum granulose. Legs long, particularly the foreleg, foretarsus much longer than tibia, nearly as long as the elytra, segment 2 more than twice as long as broad, apex of tibiae and of first tarsal segment and the entire segments 2 and 3 black.

3. *Zygaenodes monstrosus* Pasc. (1860).

Pondoland : Port St. John, xi. 1923, 1 ♂.—Natal : Kloof, 1,500 feet, viii. and ix. 1926, a series.—Zululand : Eshowe and Empangeni, iv. 1926 ; Gingindlovu, v. 1926, two pairs.

In this species the sinus of the eye is very shallow ; the posterior angle of the sinus being almost effaced and the anterior one produced downward, the eye appears pointed-ovate in a view from the side, particularly in the ♂. The series varies in size from 2.3 to 3.8 mm.

4. *Zygaenodes quadrituberculatus* Fahrs. (1871).

Pondoland : Port St. John, iv. and ix. 1923, 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀.—Natal : Kloof, 1,500 feet, viii. 1926, 1 ♂.

The eye of this species is regularly sinuate. The face is longer than in *Z. monstrosus*, particularly in the ♀, the third segment of the antenna of the ♂ is broader, the elytra are less coarsely striated and their subapical ridges less prominent. I am grateful to Professor Y. Sjöstedt for having lent me the type.

5. *Zygaenodes capensis* sp. nov.

♂♀. Oculi sinuati, aut subsessiles (♂) aut sessiles (♀). Elytra dorso albo suffusa, tuberculis parvis, interspatio tertio a tuberculo mediano ad apicem albo brunneo-binotato. Abdomen maris contractum, segmento anali brevissimo.

Long. 2·8–3·3 mm.

Pondoland : Port St. John, ii.iv.vii.viii.x.1923, a small series of both sexes.

Face shorter than in *Z. quadrituberculatus* Fahrs. (1871), in ♂ (type) all white. Eye sinuate; the stalk quite short, but distinct in a view from behind; in the ♂ the frontal lobe of the eye a little broader than the lateral lobe. Antenna of ♂ short, third segment widened and flattened at apex, but not in basal half, being much less broadened than in the preceding insect, and distinctly longer than segment 4. Pronotum with a diffuse white median line and at each side a white spot before carina and diffuse white pubescence behind eye. Elytral tubercles smaller than in both previous species; sutural area suffused with white, this colouring rather more condensed in third interspace from the median tubercle backwards. Last segment of abdomen of ♂ medianly shorter than the previous, the margin somewhat turned down, the pygidium inclining slightly frontad.

Alloschema gen nov.

♂♀. Brevis, lata, statura *Coccinellae*, elytris rotundatis basi truncatis. Rostrum breve, sat crassum, cum capitis fronte lata planum, apice leviter emarginatum. Oculi elliptici, integri, laterales, antice paululo in dorsum vergentes, ab fossis antennarum foveiformibus separati. Antenna elytrorum basim superans (♂), vel attingens (♀), segmento 3^o duobus basalibus simul sumptis longitudine aequali, 4^o–8^o gradatim brevioribus, clava triarticulata lata hirsuta, 9^o triangulari, latitudine paululo longiore (♂), 10^o latitudine brevior, 11^o ovato. Pronotum breve, modice ac aequabiliter convexum, carina subbasali in arco antrorsum flexa, medium lateris attingente, hae parte laterali pronoti parum explanata. Elytra aequabiliter convexa, 14 striis punetorum instructa. Pygidium latum truncate-rotundatum. Pedes breves fortes, femore postico abdominis apicem attingente.—Genotypus : *A. turneri* sp. nov.

Distantly related to the Malagassic genus *Diatatotropis* Lac. (1866). The genus is unique in bearing 14 lines of large punctures on the elytra, instead of 10. The eye is separated from the antennal groove by an interspace which is somewhat wider than the first segment of the antenna; though placed at the side of the head the eye is more dorsal in a lateral view than truly lateral.

6. *Alloschema turneri* sp. nov.

♂♀. Nigra, capite cum rostro, pronoto, elytrorum limbo et apice aurantiacis nigro-guttatis.

Long. 5.3 mm., lat. 3 mm.

Pondoland : Port St. John, ii. 1924, a small series.

Scutellum, a spot above shoulder, another at apex of femora and a subbasal ring on tibiae orange. At base of rostrum a median spot, two spots on occiput, seven on pronotum : two at apex, two at base, one (round) in centre and one subapical on each side, and before apex of elytra one or two (round) black ; the orange lateral border of elytra irregular, restricted to the margin in anterior half, widened into a spot in middle, apical orange area invaded by black, sometimes bearing an anterior black dot besides the one near apical margin, there being also a small lateral black dot present in two specimens.

Proboscis nearly twice as broad as long, slightly dilated at apex, rugulose. Labium incised, this sinus not extending nearly down to the insertion of the palpi. Anterior lower margin of eye nearly straight, the naked narrow ventral rim of the eye forming a small angle anteriorly. Shaft of antenna rufescent. Frons two-thirds as broad as the rostrum, occiput, frons and rostrum gradually merging into one another, the convexity of the head being slight ; on underside a transverse depression separates the labiophore from the gula.

Pronotum half as broad again as long, broadest about middle ; dorsal carina concave in middle, then convex, broadly flexed forward, the lateral carina being oblique and slightly curved ; lateral margin from carina to apex faintly cariniform ; pubescence so dense that the structure of the derm is concealed ; basal longitudinal carina forming a very acute angle with lateral carina. Scutellum longer than broad, narrow.

Elytra parallel from base to below middle, then evenly rounded, surface regularly convex, subbasal swelling not distinct, the interspaces of the 14 lines of coarse punctures flat.

Pro- and mesosternum and side of metasternum densely, side of abdomen more sparsely punctate, anal sternite centrally flattened in ♂.

Tapinidius gen. nov.

♂♀. Rostrum breve, apice dilatatum, planum, cum capite punctato-reticulatum. Oculus circularis, antice truncatus, lateralis. Antennarum scrobes aperti. Carina pronoti antebasalis, ad latera paululum antrorsum flexa. Scutellum subcirculare. Elytra basi truncata, cylindrica, fortiter punctato-striata, minutissime granulosa.—Genotypus : *T. humilis* sp. nov.

Near *Hadromerina* Jord. (1914), but the proboscis shorter, flatter, more strongly dilated at apex, without median carina, and like the head very regularly punctate-reticulate. Club of antenna loose, the three segments nearly equal in length, longer than broad.

7. *Tapinidius humilis* sp. nov.

♂♀. Rufo-brunneus, griseo notatus, antennis rufis clava brunnea, pronoto rugato-punctato haud plicato, carina concava, prosterno fortissime punctato, abdomine impunctato, levissime coriaceo, segmento primo serie basali punctorum instructo,

Long. 1·8-2·1 mm.

Pondoland : Port St. John, xii. 1923, ii. and iii. 1924. 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀.

Pubescence coarse and not dense, the whitish grey colouring occupying less than half the upper surface, more or less concentrated in spots which vary in size and number and are not very definite : on pronotum a spot on each side of disc, a border along carina and sometimes an indication of a median stripe whitish grey ; scutellum whitish grey ; on elytra this pubescence usually more extended before and behind middle than elsewhere ; on underside the grey colouring almost confined to the sides of meso-metasternum, where it is fairly conspicuous.

Proboscis one-half broader than long ; the median sinus of the apical margin shallow, occupying a little over one-third, sides of margin smooth, glossy. Frons much more than one-half the width of the occiput. Upper margin of antennal groove regularly incurved, the groove not being covered by it. Antenna reaching base of elytra, segment 3 a little shorter than 2, but longer than 4, 5 to 8 slightly thicker than 3, about twice as long as broad, club as long as 3 to 8 together, 9 and 10 almost alike, conical, longer than broad, 11 the same in length, but elliptical, pointed, pubescence of club white, not dense. Distance of antennal groove from eye a little less than the width of segment 2 of antenna.

Pronotum one-fifth broader than long, rounded at sides, widest behind middle, moderately convex, coarsely and deeply punctate, the punctures close together, somewhat irregular, their interstices granulose, centre of apical margin smooth. Elytra almost twice as long as broad (25 : 14), cylindrical, very deeply striate-punctate, the interspaces convex, subbasal swelling hardly indicated. Pygidium semicircular. Prosternum very coarsely punctate inclusive of middle, there being some large punctures also on posterior half of side ; antecoxal portion somewhat shorter than the coxa is wide ; metasternum punctate at sides, convex between mid and hind coxae. Anal segment of abdomen rather strongly convex in ♂. Hind femur of ♂ reaching to apex of abdominal segment 4, shorter in ♀ ; first tarsal segment longer than 4, 3 pale.

Astianus gen. nov.

♂♀. Praecedentis vicinus, antennarum segmento 10^o longitudine latiore, carina pronoti ad latera haud antrorsum flexa, elytrorum interspatiis nitidis haud granulosus, sternis et abdomine grosse punctatis facile distinguendus.— Genotypus : **A. cinctus** sp. nov.

The proboscis and head regularly punctate-reticulate. Eyes elliptical, oblique, not truncate in front, lateral, the frons being much broader than half the occiput. Upper margin of antennal scrobe not incurved, the scrobe being more or less covered by it. Pronotum reticulate-punctate, with the longitudinal interspaces somewhat convex, or punctate with all the interspaces flat, the sides of pronotum somewhat expanded, rounded-convex. Base of elytra truncate, the raised margin very sharp also across shoulder ; interspaces of rows of punctures not convex and quite smooth, without the minute granulation of the allied genera : *Enedreytes* Schoenh. (1839), *Autotropis* Jord. (1924), *Tapinidius* gen. nov.

In general appearance very similar to *Cleranthribus* Jord. (1913), from the Seychelles, but in that genus the antennal groove is open, dorsal and close to the

eye. The resemblance probably is due to an association of these Anthribids with some kinds of *Cleridae*, *Anthicidae*, or *Colydiidae*, and ants.

S. *Astianus cinctus* sp. nov.

♂♀. Aut rufus aut nigro-brunneus; pronoto capite cum oculis multo latiore, lateribus rotundatim dilatatis; elytris nigris, fortiter convexis, basi contracta rufa albo bifasciata.

Long. 1.8–2.5 mm.

Pondoland: Port St. John, ix., x., xi., xii. 1923, i. and ii. 1924, a small series.

Whereas the general colouration of the derm varies individually from rufous to blackish brown, the basal fifth of the elytra and their apical margin remain rufous. Pubescence consisting of scattered darkish stiff hairs and broader white scale-hairs, the white pubescence conspicuous where it is concentrated, but evidently easily rubbed off: on pronotum a subapical spot on each side and three basal ones which extend across carina, on elytra a transverse band at base and another behind it at the beginning of the dark swollen portion, these bands continued on the metasternum by one broad band, before apical declivity of elytra one or two spots, sometimes nearly forming a transverse band, on prosternum a lateral spot, and on other parts of the body and on the legs some scattered white pubescence.

Proboscis not quite one-half broader (at apex) than long (14:10), medianly impressed. Upper edge of antennal groove nearly straight, very little curved downwards posteriorly, the groove not sharply defined towards eye. Antenna rufous, reaching base of elytra, segment 2 elongate-pyriform, 3 as long as 2 (♂) or a little shorter, slightly longer than 4 (♂) or equalling it in length, 4 to 7 gradually decreasing in lengths, 8 = 7 a little more than half as long as 3, club brown, with a fairly dense covering of thin white hairs, the segments well separated, together not quite so long as 4 to 8 together, 9 conical, longer than broad, 10 broader than long, 11 ovate, as long as 9.

Pronotum as broad as the elytra at their widest point, swollen sideways from close to apical margin, cushion-shaped, moderately convex, about one-seventh broader than long, densely covered with large punctures, of which the interstices form irregular longitudinal ridges.

Elytra a little over one-half longer than broad, not depressed at suture, without subbasal callosity, strongly swollen in middle, in the manner of *Physopterus gibbosus* Guér. (1843), gradually declivous towards base and more strongly towards apex, base narrower than middle, punctures large, smaller at apex, forming conspicuous rows from base to apex, but the rows not distinctly impressed. Pygidium rounded, shorter than a semicircle, the median groove extending to near apex.

Underside of head pitted with large punctures up to the eye. Sides of pronotum inclusive of posterior half very coarsely punctate, the antecoxal portion bearing few punctures and being shorter than the coxa is wide. Metasternum also punctate. Abdomen convex, segments 1 to 4 with two rows of large punctures and usually some punctures in between, on 4 the posterior row medianly obsolete, 5 with one incomplete row, 5 a little longer in middle than 4, not swollen in either sex. First segment of tarsi a little longer than 4,

9. *Astianus tricolor* sp. nov.

Cylindricus, supra niger, sparsim albo notatus, capite cum medio pronoti plus minusve rufo, elytris singulis vitta rufa dorsali a basi ad apicem extensa ornatis: subtus aut niger aut rufus. Pronotum densissime grosse reticulato-punctatum. Elytra usque ad apicem fortissime striato-punctata, cylindrica, haud tumida.

Long. 2 mm.

Pondoland: Port St. John, xii.1923, ii.1924, 2 ♀♀, type, also a broken ♂, ix.1923.

The previous, "mimetic," species probably is derived from some species like *A. tricolor* which is normal in shape.

The pubescence consists of scattered darkish hairs and long white scales, the latter concentrated here and there into more or less definite markings: on pronotum a thin median stripe interrupted in middle, a lateral apical spot and dorso-lateral postmedian one; on elytra a line in fifth interspace from base to near one-third, a lateral patch of scattered scales behind shoulder, a few scales near base of suture and a small spot (rubbed away in type) on apical declivity: scutellum likewise white, as is also the metepisternum and a diffuse subapical subventral spot on the femora.

Upper edge of antennal groove curved down posteriorly, sharply bounding the groove. Antenna not reaching to elytra, pale rufous, club brown, segment 3 slightly shorter than 2, 3, 4 and 5 nearly equal in length, 7 and 8 shorter and a little thicker, club almost compact, 9 as long as broad, 10 broader than long, 11 rotundate, longer than 9, its apex pointed. Pronotum one-third broader than long, much broader than the head plus eyes, the sides being rounded-dilated, upper surface densely punctate, the punctures more or less hexagonal, some of them longer than broad, the interstices narrow, but not forming longitudinal ridges as in *A. cinctus*. Scutellum longer than broad.

Elytra one-half longer than broad, cylindrical, not swollen, not dilated, subbasal dorsal swelling faintly indicated, suture not depressed, the punctures large and deep and the interspaces between the rows very slightly convex. Pygidium transverse, rounded.

Underside punctate, two rows on abdominal segments 1-3. Legs brownish black, claws rufescent.

Panastius gen. nov.

♂. Rostrum apice paululo dilatatum, cum capite reticulato-punctatum. Oculus ellipticus, lateralis, grosse granulosus. Pronotum punctatum, haud plicatum, interspatiis nitidis, carina antebasali ad latera haud antrosum flexa. Elytra tumida, antice contracta et depressa, impunctata, parte basali excepta. Prosternum ante coxas latitudine coxarum duplo longius. Abdomen fere impunctatum. Tarsorum segmentum primum quarto brevius, unguis dente brevi.—Genotypus: *P. turneri* sp. nov.

In general appearance similar to *Astianus cinctus* sp. nov., but very different in detail. The interspaces of the punctures of the pronotum are flat instead of forming longitudinal ridges, and the punctures of the elytra are confined to the depressed basal area, the rows only extending farther back at suture and side-margin.

10. *Panastius turneri* sp. nov.

♂. Rufus, hic et inde albo signatus, elytris basi et marginibus exceptis nigris. Pronotum convexum, longitudine paululum latius, punctis grossis dispersis notatum. Elytra basi contracta, gibbositate subbasali alta instructa. Pygidium truncatum.

Long. 2.8 mm.

Pondoland : Port St. John, xii.1923, 1 ♂.

Proboscis nearly twice as broad as long (22 : 12), less strongly widened apically than in *A. cinctus*. Cariniform edge of antennal groove posteriorly extending downward. Antenna entirely pale rufous, proportions essentially as in *A. cinctus*. Prothorax practically as long as broad (43 : 44), rounded at sides not swollen, evenly convex dorsally and laterally, the upper- and undersides not separated, the punctures deep and evenly distributed, their interspaces flat, somewhat narrower than the punctures ; along carina some white pubescence (probably forming 3 spots in well-preserved specimens), a median spot at apex and a diffuse patch on underside also white, inconspicuous. Scutellum white.

Elytra one-fourth longer than broad, impunctate except on basal fourth, the sutural and lateral rows of punctures extending farther back than one-fourth ; behind the round high subbasal callosity a transverse depression bearing some white pubescence, which is concentrated into a dot near lateral margin, behind middle a dorsal white spot (the white pubescence partially rubbed off in this specimen). Pygidium transverse, slightly narrowing apicad, truncate, with the angles rounded.

Underside of thorax coarsely punctate ; mesepisternum white. Abdomen with a few shallow punctures, practically impunctate, flattened, last segment truncate.
